

# 5/A  
JMD  
12/8/01

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of :

Nigel Atherton et al.

Group Art Unit:

Serial No.: To be assigned

Examiner:

Filed: Herewith

For: TREATMENT OF BONE DISEASES

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

25. (Amended) Use of a lanthanum (III) compound in the method of  
claim 1.